

EAST GERMANYMilitaryTHE KANNENBURG FIRING RANGE (26 May - 16 Jun 56)

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. GENERAL

- (a) Throughout the whole of the period there was considerable infantry training activity, mainly up to company strength. Attack and defence were practised, the attacking force usually being about 2 platoons strong and the defenders one platoon.
- (b) Armament consisted of rifles, MGs and machine pistols.
- (c) The attacks were carried out with noticeably wide spaces between the individual soldiers and only blank cartridges were used.
- (d) At the end of each attack, a break-in into a defensive position with live hand grenades was carried out.

2. 28 May 56

- (a) An attack lasting 5-5 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs, in battalion strength, was carried out supported by 120mm mortars and 76.2mm guns, towed by APCs. Live ammunition was used. The attack started from just NORTH of the GR. KUHLOWALLSEE against a position between the KRAMS- and GR. BEUTELSEE. Supported by overhead fire from the mortars and 76.2mm guns, the infantry approached in waves on a broad front. From time to time, the attacking infantry went to ground and heavy artillery fire (of unknown calibre) was requested by telephone. After the artillery fire had gone down the attack was resumed.
- (b) Training on heavy and light weapons continued whilst the attack was in progress.

3. 8 Jun 56

An exactly similar attack was practised, with the exception that no 120mm mortars were used.

4. 30 May 56

6 RLs, M.13 fired from Jagen 72 and 73 at unknown targets in Jagen 161 and 162.

5. 6 Jun, 7 Jun, 13 Jun 56

- (a) 2 x SU 152 and 4 tanks (T.34/85 and J.S.) fired in the tank range in Jagen 68, 69, 85, 86, 99 and 100. Live ammunition was used and firing was carried out whilst the AFVs were stationary or on the move. Targets were situated at a range of approx 300m.

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- (b) The following tank

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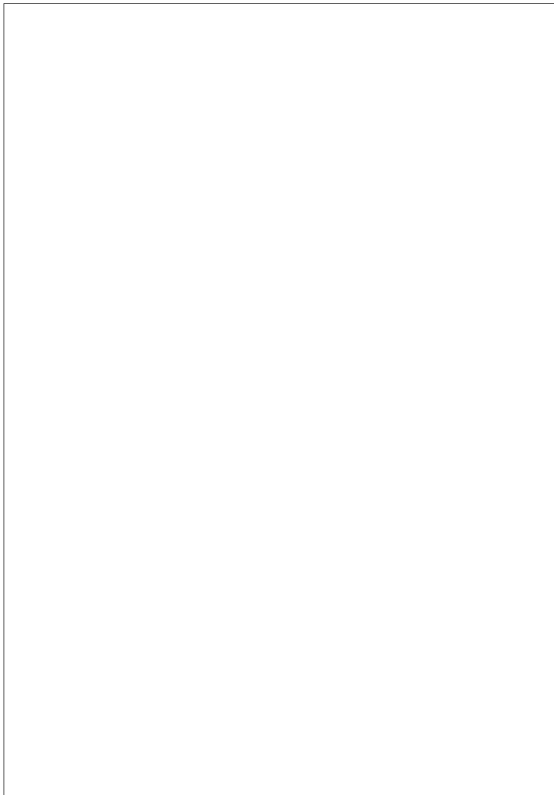
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6. 10 Jun and 14 Jun 56

An artillery unit, consisting 6 x 122mm guns and 2 x 152mm guns, carried out training in the area. They travelled in a wide echelon and took up firing positions on several occasions, including camouflage with tree branches.

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